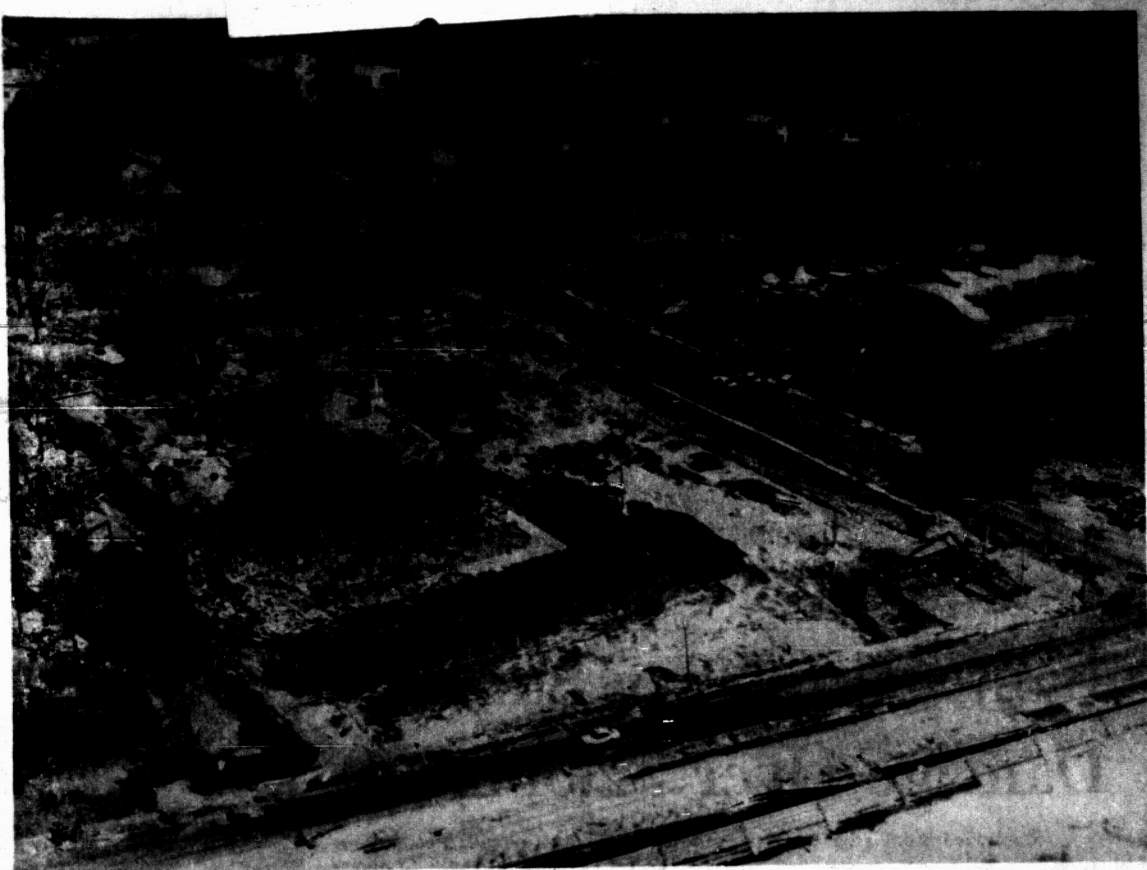




Gulfshore Baptist Assembly is seen from the air with Gulf Hall in foreground. All the small buildings were completely destroyed with the four larger ones gutted and badly damaged.



Aerial view of Long Reach with First Baptist Church which was severely damaged, in left center. Note ruins of huge shopping center in foreground.

RECEIVED
AUG 29 1969
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Established Weekly Since 1877

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 1969

Volume XC, Number 34

State Baptist Property Suffers Storm Damage Over \$2,500,000

AERIAL VIEW OF Kittiwake Baptist Assembly, located in eastern part of Pass Christian, looking toward the Gulf in background. Facility was completely destroyed, as evidenced in photo.

Churches Asked To Make 'Camille' Offering Sept. 7

The churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention are being asked to take a generous special offering on Sunday, Sept. 7 for Hurricane Camille relief, according to Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, Jackson, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The Executive Committee of the Board, Dr. Robert Hamblin, Tupelo, chairman, in a called meeting Tuesday at the Baptist Building, voted to take this action upon the recommendation of Dr. Hudgins.

Dr. Hudgins said that this offering would go to the Baptist churches and people in the disaster area in south Mississippi which have suffered such heavy losses.

Dr. Hudgins said that the estimated unrecoverable losses of the Baptist churches in the hurricane area would range between \$1,000,000, and \$1,200,000.

He said that he and Dr. Joe T. Odle, editor of the Baptist Record, had arrived at that figure after conferring with several Baptist Building staff personnel who had surveyed the disaster area.

The Executive Committee voted to assume direction of the expenditure of the funds and also voted to ask the Executive Committee in the associations affected to work with them.

The associational Executive Committees would include the moderator and superintendent of missions.

Dr. Hudgins asked that all funds be sent to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, P. O. Box 530 Jackson, Miss. (39205).

The Committee also voted to seek, through the Home Mission Board and the Executive Secretary of the S.B.C. Executive Committee, along with the President of the S.B.C., to appeal for generous special aid from all areas of the Convention.

This also came as a recommendation from the Executive Secretary.

The Committee voted, upon recommendation of the Executive Secretary, not to make any decisions at this time as to the future of either Gulfshore or Kittiwake Baptist assemblies.

Dr. Hudgins said in his report to the committee that he felt that both facilities are a total loss to the extent of \$1,300,000.

According to Committee action, disposition of whatever furnishings and equipment are left at the assemblies was placed in hands of a committee composed of Glenn Perry, Philadelphia, chairman of assemblies committee; Rev. Tom Douglas assemblies manager; A. L. Nelson, treasurer and business manager of the Board and the executive secretary.

Mr. Douglas, Grady Blackwell, superintendent of buildings and grounds and such other personnel as are necessary would be retained in their present positions until further recommendation concerning them can be made at the September meeting of the Board, according to Committee action.

Hurricane Camille did not spare churches, church property, or church people. In her terrific blast at the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and in her continuing journey across the state.

Baptist churches and pastor's homes suffered great damage, with the loss now estimated to be between \$1,000,000 and \$1,200,000.

Mississippi Baptist Convention assemblies property at Gulfshore and Kittiwake, both at Pass Christian, suffered damage totaling between \$1,300,000 and \$1,500,000.

This places the direct Baptist property loss at more than \$2,500,000.

Hundreds of Baptist members lost their homes, and many their businesses. It is not yet known how many Baptist church members lost their lives. Some already are included in the casualty lists.

The damage to the churches is not only to their property and people, but also to the economy. Church income will be effected for months and possibly years to come, while the area struggles to rebuild, and to regain its economic strength.

The destruction to some other denominations was as great, or even greater. It has been estimated that Roman Catholic losses will reach in

the neighborhood of \$12,000,000. Not a single Episcopal Church on the coast escaped severe damage, according to one report, and most of their churches were destroyed. Methodists and Presbyterians suffered great losses, as did others.

Hurricane Camille was a killer storm. She left the Mississippi Gulf Coast staggering.

She devastated the area along the water's edges, and sometimes for blocks, and even miles inland.

This, however, was not all of her destruction, for winds that reportedly approached 200 miles per hour, wrought havoc with buildings and trees far from the beaches. Indeed counties far inland from the coast reported severe damage from the storm.

Reports indicate that at least 200 people died in the storm. Authorities say that we probably never will know how many died, for some bodies may have been washed to sea. At this writing, nine days after the storm, they are still digging bodies out of the wreckage.

A "preliminary" Red Cross survey says that 5,238 homes were destroyed. (Wouldn't that equal a city of 15,000 or more?). Another 11,097 sustained major damage, while still another 28,826 homes received minor damage. Add to this over 1000 trailers. This is an early estimate, and others may make it higher. Tens of thousands of people are homeless.

One insurance organization estimates that damages covered by insurance may pass \$200,000,000. Ordinarily, wave and tidal damage, which destroyed most of the homes, is not covered by insurance. This means that the total loss is almost inestimable at this time.

Many businesses, especially those along the shore line of the coast, have been destroyed. Tourist courts with a total of thousands of rooms, no longer exist.

The beach highway has been seriously damaged, and it will be months before the south lane close to the seawall, will be repaired. Even part of the north lane of the beautiful, dou-

(Continued on page 2)

We Must Help These Churches and People

An Editorial

Mississippi Baptists must aid their fellow Baptists and churches, and other people in the hurricane devastated areas of the Gulf Coast.

Seldom in the history of the nation have so many people suffered so great loss.

Not often have so many churches been affected.

The hearts of all America seem to be reaching out to these stricken people.

Mississippi Baptists are among them. Already our people have given, both money and food and clothing to help meet emergency need, and they still are doing it. Many of them have opened their homes to refugees. Others have worked tirelessly in refugee

centers. The response has been wonderful, but the need has been and still is great.

But Mississippi Baptists can and must do more. Not only must we continue to respond to the general appeals which are being made, but also we must share in a special offering, to especially aid our churches and their members.

The general aid will help people of all groups and all ages, regardless of religious affiliation or race, and it should be so.

Government aid will become available to businesses and to individuals, and so it should.

There is little, however, that the government can do for the

(Continued on page 4)

I Lived Through Hurricane Camille

By Tom Douglas

(Rev. Tom Douglas, Director of Assemblies for the Convention Board, dictated his experiences before, during and after the storm. Part of his report is given here.)

We were aware that Hurricane Camille was headed our way sometime Friday, pretty definitely, that is unless some drastic change took place, which the weather forecasters kept saying "they thought would" but it did not look too promising. By Saturday I had decided that it was imperative that we begin hurricane preparations. It would have been hard for you to believe this if you had been at Gulfshore for we had about 300 people there and they were swimming, sunning and attending their classes. Everything was going on as if perfectly natural.

I called the group together at lunch and told them it was going to be necessary for us to vacate the grounds right after lunch and it was a little hard for them to believe, however, without exception they accepted our word and did so without any grumbling.

I wish you could have seen what followed as our staff pitched in and

started to work. Really, I have never seen anything like it. At this time of the year our student staff is pretty well whipped out, they are whipped out for two reasons, one, they are just dog tired, that's all and the other is, a lot of their friends have already gone home and that tends to break spirit and moral and there is a general "Oh well, what's the use" feeling that seems to go along with that particular time of the year. So on top of those feelings it was just tremendous to me that my staff with one accord began working. We had no complaints whatever, no back talk, no one said, "this isn't my job," everyone just worked very, very hard.

We began moving things up to the second floor of the hotel which we felt to be standard procedure I do not know what else we could have done. We moved all of the bedding, I wish you could have seen that staff carrying mattresses, heavy and bulky as they are upstairs, we moved the beds, chairs, tables, and cafeteria things that were movable. It was just fantastic. By nightfall we had moved practically everything we could move.

Mr. Blackwell still had some additional work to do that more or less only his crew could do such as the

(Continued on page 3)

Hudgins Reports On State Assemblies

Mr. Roberts and I are inside the once beautiful Gulfshore Assembly. At the present moment, I am standing directly in front of the gymnasium and looking over toward the main building, or The Gulf, as we call it. From this distance, there is apparently little damage to the structure of the building. The water tank, so far as is visible to our eyes, remains intact. I see one steel brace that appears to be broken loose, but if my sense of perpendicular is at all to be trusted I do not see that the water tank is even the slightest out of line. To each side of The Gulf Building, the sight is sickening.

Immediately in front of me, as we sit here and look directly out over the

water, perhaps a third of the campus, or parade ground as it used to be called, stretching out in front of the gymnasium, is free of water. But about 75 yards, perhaps 60 yards out from the gymnasium, the water begins and continues right up to the edge of The Gulf Building. Indeed, from here, it looks like it's over the curb of the street in front of the building. The water stretches clear to my left over the driveway, on which we enter these grounds, and comes back around to my right or toward the chapel and stretches out in front of the driveway that came in front of the Bookstore and the Children's Building. The water stops just about the edge of the barracks that

is located adjacent to the auditorium.

Now, as I turn to my right and look toward the auditorium where many of us concluded a very delightful week with the noon service on last Friday, the scene is a very desolate one. First of all, to my right, immediately at the end of the gymnasium, the high guard rail and mesh fence around the swimming pool have been smashed at the center by a pine tree that is fourteen to sixteen inches in diameter and has been felled immediately across the pool. It has knocked down the guard rail and the fence almost at the exact center. It apparently has not been torn up, but the splintered butt of the tree is mute evidence of the force of the terrific twisting force

of the wind. Scattered in front of the swimming pool are the once useful floodlights that helped beautifully as well as protect the people up and down this driveway.

And immediately beyond there is no semblance of a front to the auditorium. The covered entrance has completely disappeared and the solid wall through which we entered from the foyer into the auditorium is completely wiped out. Only the arched gabled remains holding that end of the roof and piled in front of it, as you would imagine, are concrete blocks, bricks and rubble of all kinds, even stretching clear across the auditorium itself, and when we tried to

(Continued on page 6)

LULU

Telegram

093A COT AUG 25 69 NSB034
MS J2A006 NL PDB

JACKSON MISS AUG 28

ASSUMING THAT THE CONVENTION BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY WILL ACCEPT YOUR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S RECOMMENDATION OF SETTING SEPTEMBER 7 FOR A SPECIAL OFFERING FOR OUR BAPTIST WORK ON THE GULF COAST, CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, JACKSON, IN SESSION THIS EVENING VOTED ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO UNDERWRITE \$25,000.00 FOR THIS SPECIAL EFFORT TO AID OUR CHURCHES AFFECTED BY HURRICANE CAMILLE. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT YOUR GREAT CHURCH WILL DO A PROPORTIONATELY WORTHY THING.

V DOUGLAS HUGHINS.

Calvary Church Leads The Way

Dr. Huggins sent the above telegram after Calvary, Jackson, pledged \$25,000.

Baptist Property Suffers Damage Over \$2,500,000

(Continued from page 1)

ble lane highway sustained severe damage.

Churches did not escape the fury of the elements. Baptist pastors in the area, met with a representative of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Gulfport on Thursday, and reported damage totaling about \$1,000,000 to \$1,200,000 to Baptist churches and pastor's homes. Of course, this figure may have to be revised either upward, or downward, when a more accurate appraisal can be made. Equal losses and possibly greater, were sustained by other denominations.

The replacement loss at Gulfshore and Kitiwake, the Mississippi Baptist Convention's assembly and camp facilities, probably will total \$1,300,000 or more.

Kitiwake is completely wiped out, with not a building standing, or even visible, except a small shed which stood on the back of the grounds away from the beach. All that one sees is foundations and piles of rubble.

At Gulfshore, all of the buildings are gone except four, and those all have sustained major damage. The auditorium is simply a shell, with the front knocked out. The main hotel and the gymnasium are a shambles inside. What remains of the girls barracks building probably will have to be taken down, as it appears unreparable.

Although several churches of other denominations apparently were completely demolished, we have learned of only one Baptist church or mission building which was completely destroyed. That was the Bayside Mission at Bay St. Louis.

First Baptist Church, Gulfport, withstood the storm, but the estimated loss by water damage, caused by the angry sea waters entering the beautiful new auditorium and the educational buildings, was said to be about \$300,000. The pastor's home also had several feet of water, and suffered severe loss.

First Baptist Church, Long Beach, felt even more of the wrath of the storm, since it was near the center of "eye" and even though its building stood, its losses were estimated to be about \$300,000. A shopping center adjacent to the building was completely demolished. The pastor's home did not suffer wave damage.

The Mississippi City church, and the Beach Boulevard church at Henderson Point (Pass Christian), near Gulfshore, both suffered severe damage. The former had about three feet of water, and the latter had ten or more feet of water, which gutted the building. The Beach Boulevard pastor's home also was severely damaged, but the Mississippi City church escaped wave damage, although a great pile of debris was in the yard.

Some Biloxi Baptist churches suffered damage, but not like that further West. Most, if not all of them, escaped wave damage, but did receive other damage, from the high winds, and torrential rains. Churches in Jackson County, Pearl River and some other counties also were damaged by the storm, but most of those losses should be covered by insurance. Economic losses, however, will not be so covered.

A late report tells of a church near Poplarville which had its building completely demolished. It had little insurance.

Rebuilding

The coast has been delivered a staggering blow, but it has not been destroyed. Already, leaders there, and leaders here, are saying that it will be rebuilt and will be better than ever. We believe that this is true. It will be a different coast, for many of the old landmark homes will be gone, and many of the beautiful giant live oaks and pines which grew along the beach no longer are there.

Except for the beach front area, Gulfport's business area has not suffered major damage, that cannot be repaired. The same is true of Biloxi, Long Beach, and Bay St. Louis. These cities are hurt, but they are not destroyed.

There is more serious damage at Pass Christian and Waveland, but

these, too, will be rebuilt. People love the Gulf Coast. It is home to thousands of people, and it is a favored spot to hundreds of thousands of others.

It will require assistance, and it will take time, but the coast will be rebuilt.

Response

The response to this stricken area from the people of the state and nation has been wonderful to behold.

Mississippi opened her homes and her buildings to the refugees. The governor and all of the government departments responded immediately. Food, water and clothing began to pour in from all over the nation. Civil Defense, the state highway patrol, the National Guard, and other government agencies moved in immediately to help handle the situation.

President Nixon sent Vice President Agnew to survey the damage, declared the stricken section a Disaster Area, promised massive federal aid, and sent in divisions of the armed forces to aid.

Airplanes and trucks began to shuttle back and forth into the area to bring needed supplies. The National Red Cross sent in its top disaster experts. Doctors, nurses, and other medical aides came to the coast, and medicines and supplies came from everywhere.

On Sunday, Aug. 24, Mississippians and others gave over a million dollars in relief, during a radio-television "telethon."

On the coast the Civil Defense and state and local officials, set up rescue teams the night of the storm, and they have continued since then in seeking the dead, rescuing the living, ministering to the sick and injured, and setting up refugee centers and relief distribution centers.

Utility companies across the nation have sent workers to help restore power and communications facilities. Engineers and others with heavy equipment have been clearing the streets and other areas of the rubble.

Baptists have had a large part in this crisis period service. Some churches served as refugee centers, while others now are serving as relief distribution stations. Some of the pastors and associational leaders are serving, with the Baptist distribution points, or in other relief areas. All now, is being coordinated under Civil Defense and the Governor's Office.

The Needs

Two, or even three kinds of assistance have been and will be needed, by those in the coast area.

First, there was the emergency need, for rescue, relief, storm shelter, etc. This was the major emphasis in the beginning, of course, and it will have to continue until all of the debris has been cleared, dead bodies found, families reunited, etc.

Then there will come the problem of finding temporary shelter for thousands of people who are homeless, and will not be able to return to their homes for months, and some, perhaps, never, since they have lost all that they had.

During this period there also is the problem of economic adjustment, since many businesses where hundreds or even thousands worked, will not be able to get back into operation for a long time. Many people involved in this problem, will continue to need assistance, since many do not have relatives who can take them in or aid them.

Finally, there is the long term problem of rebuilding the coast area, including homes, businesses, etc. Even in this part, there will need to be aid. Federal, state and local government leaders, are working together in seeking to find solutions to these monumental problems. The economic problems also will be tremendous.

The Churches

The same problems involve the churches. There is the necessity for aiding distressed members. There are the problems of trying to repair and rebuild. There is the need for reestablishing a church program as quickly as possible. Some are starting this immediately. First Church, Gulfport, had a hand lettered sign standing in front of its property, "Services on Sunday." Inside, workmen were



Aerial view of Bay St. Louis, showing extensive damage done. First Baptist Church, practically undamaged, is seen in upper right of photo.



Mississippi City near First Baptist Church as seen from the air.

scrubbing the floors of the fellowship hall, and had open windows to help dry it out, trying to get ready for a service on Sunday. It probably will be sometime before they can use their sanctuary, or return to a full program of work.

First Church, Long Beach, has announced that it would have services at the High School Building on Sunday.

First Church, Pass Christian, has a building, but no congregation, since the town has been evacuated under martial law. However, the pastor, said, that "As soon as there were people to attend, there will be services, and since all other churches in the community had lost their buildings, they would be welcome to attend First Baptist Church, or to use the building for their own services."

Mississippi City Church may have some delay in services, but probably will meet in the school or elsewhere, beginning shortly.

Most other churches on the coast, will be able to continue their ministry.

However, there are other major problems. Congregations are scattered, and thousands of members now have no homes to return to, or, if the home can be repaired, it will be weeks or months before they are livable. This means delay in the return to normal.

Moreover, this also means a great loss in income for the churches. Since the economy of the coast has been seriously effected, and it will take months, or even years fully to return to normal, the financial problems of the churches will not be small. This is especially true in relation to the matter of bonded indebtedness, although we are sure that bonding companies, will try to work out some adjustments to aid the churches in this crisis time.

Baptist Response

Baptist response to the problems has been immediate. On Tuesday Dr. Huggins and Mr. W. R. Roberts, went to the coast, especially to see damage to the churches and to the Convention Board property at Gulfshore and Kitiwake.

On Wednesday, your editor, Associate editor Joe Abrams, Director of Circulation Bill Sellers, and Mr. Jim Newton of Baptist Press, Nashville, spent the day on the coast, checking on churches and pastors, inspecting the damage, and interviewing people, in order to give a report to the churches and to the nation.

On Thursday, Dr. Clark Hensley of the Christian Life Commission was

asked by Dr. Huggins to go to the coast to meet with pastors, and then to contact other churches and pastors, to help get a true picture of the damage, and what had to be done.

Dr. Huggins, early in the week, called for an emergency meeting of the Executive Committee, for Tuesday, August 26.

On Friday, he released to the press the announcement, that he will recommend to the Executive Committee that Baptists of the state be given opportunity on Sunday, September 7, to make a special offering for Disaster Relief for people and churches in the coast area, and that a special committee be appointed to work with the executive committees of the effected associations, in ascertaining the needs of the churches and people, and to try to administer the funds in such a manner as best to meet those needs.

Special Offering Proposed

Dr. Huggins also announced that while the losses of Gulfshore and Kitiwake Assemblies have been tremendous, the special offering at this time is for the people and the churches, and that decisions relative to the assemblies will be made later.

Also on Friday, the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, deposited an Emergency Fund of \$5,000 to the account of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, to provide for funds to meet emergency needs. Dr. Huggins already had begun to use some of Mississippi Baptists own emergency relief funds, to aid pastors and others who had lost everything, and had no immediate source of income. The Home Mission Board also announced that further aid would be coming as needed.

Also on Friday it was learned that Dr. Porter Routh, Executive Secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention, and Dr. W. A. Criswell, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, had expressed a concern that Southern Baptists take some positive action to aid the churches of the state. Decision on this could not come before the Executive Committee meeting next month.

Meanwhile, churches and pastors across the convention have been sending van loads of food and supplies to people in the stricken areas, joining with many other people who are doing the same thing.

Already churches are sending checks for relief. A thousand dollar check came from a Miami church Miami Shores Monday morning.

Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson, in

its service on Sunday evening, August 24, voted to underwrite a gift of \$25,000 to the Convention Board's Relief Fund, for aid of the churches.

One Baptist pastor in Texas, asked the Campbell Soup Company in his city to send aid, and they responded with 50,000 cans of Campbell's Pork and Beans, Soup, etc. It was brought to Mississippi in a truck provided free by a large trucking firm. This is simply one of the many responses which have come from across the nation.

The Baptist Brotherhood of Memphis, called Dr. Huggins, offering to enlist volunteer workers from across the nation, to aid in reconstruction of Baptist churches and property, and other property.

The Sunday School Board has wired that it will replace free all Sunday School literature, which has been lost.

Many churches in Mississippi have shared in the relief program. Many have sent trucks of supplies. First Baptist Church, Wiggins, served both as a relief and refugee center, during the early days of the disaster, and still is a backup point for the relief stations in Gulfport.

Individual Baptists have kept the lines busy to the Baptist building, offering to help.

Meanwhile, the people on the coast who had water damage, but did not suffer destruction of their homes, are trying to rehabilitate them, so that they can get back into them as soon as possible. Those who escaped the severe losses, are helping those whose losses were greater.

On Sunday, August 24, churches which could have services did so.

Summary

The Mississippi Gulf Coast has been hurt, but leaders feel that it will recover.

By its own efforts, and with the help of its friends, it will rebuild.

That will be a long, costly process, but it will be done, and out of the ruin wrought by the storm, a greater, finer Gulf Coast will rise.

The churches will be a part of the rise to new heights. The people who make up their memberships will not let them fall. They know that God will help them, for He wants them to be stronger than ever in the ministry to the great Gulf Coast area.

God also will lead other Baptists who were outside the storm area, to share what they have with those within the area, so that the Lord's work can be rebuilt, and the needs of His people can be met. The spirit that is emerging is that such help will come.

Coast Relief Centers Now In Churches

Relief centers operated by Baptists have been set up along the stricken area with Receiving Stations at Gulf Coast Association Office, 22nd Avenue and 22nd Street in Gulfport. First Baptist Church, Bay St. Louis, Rev. John Dearing, pastor; and First Baptist Church, Biloxi, Rev. Larry Rohrman, pastor.

Arrangements have been made by Rev. J. W. Brister, Supt. of Missions, Gulf Coast Association, for thirteen distribution centers in the area, according to Dr. J. Clark Hensley, Director of the Christian Action Commission. At the request of Dr. W. D. Huggins, Dr. Hensley spent Wednesday through Saturday in the coastal area assisting in setting up the centers.

A back-up receiving station for Gulfport is the First Baptist Church, Wiggins, Rev. J. Ray Grissett, pastor; for Bay St. Louis, the First Baptist Church of Poyune, Rev. Carliss Evans, pastor; and for Biloxi, First Baptist Church of Ocean Springs, Rev. Paul Aultman, pastor.

What Is Needed

FOOD ITEMS: canned goods, juices, milk

SANITATION ITEMS: soap, washing powder, towels, mops, brooms, sanitary napkins, disinfectants

BABY ARTICLES: Baby food, bottles, diapers, baby clothes

LINENS: sheets, pillow cases, light blankets, towels, bath rags

(Please do NOT send clothing NOW!)

If you have received clothing, at your church, sort it, size it, box it and HOLD IT. Only light clothing may be needed later.)

The First Baptist Church of Biloxi has been a receiving and distribution center for the whole city of Biloxi as the mayor of Biloxi designated Rev. Larry Rohrman, pastor, to coordinate and direct the food relief operations for the city. Seven distribution centers were set up by the Biloxi citizens from this receiving center located at the church and the Buena Vista Hotel. Mr. Rohrman was relieved of this responsibility Sunday, but the First Baptist Church, Biloxi, will still be assisting in the distribution of materials.

Rev. Zeno Wells, Supt. of Missions of Jackson County, is arranging for necessary Baptist administration of relief in the Jackson County area.

Dr. Hensley emphasized that these centers will work with other relief operations to meet the needs of all citizens and to avoid duplications of effort. Those closest to the need in the various communities will make the decisions as to assistance.

The nature and extent of the disaster makes long-range planning necessary as well as giving immediate relief to the citizens — hence the arrangement for back-up centers being available to receive relief supplies, if necessary. It is imperative that none be turned back or turned down because of temporary storage problems. Dr. Hensley cautioned our people to be patient with the local distributing groups, as well as receiving groups. Because of the enormity of the task and the difficulties in communication, some misunderstandings and abuses will occur, but these are very minor in the light of the values in feeding and clothing so many.

Delisle and Handsboro were among the first church relief centers to open as truck loads of supplies were unloaded from New Orleans and the other sections as truck drivers, caught in the traffic, just stopped when they found a Baptist church.



I Can See

SAIGON — Missionary Gordon Smith is reunited with his wife and Nguyen Thi Cong at Saigon airport. Mrs. Smith had taken the Vietnamese orphan to the United States for a delicate eye operation to save her sight. Miss Cong is one of the children at an orphanage, operated in Danang by the Smiths, who are the longest-resident Protestant missionaries in Vietnam. They arrived by oxcart from Cambodia 40 years ago. — (RNS Photo)

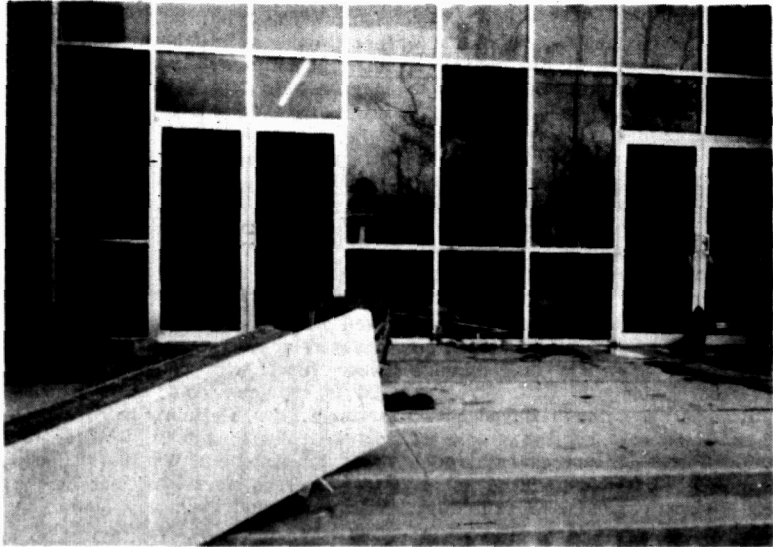


Downtown Gulfport as seen from the air.

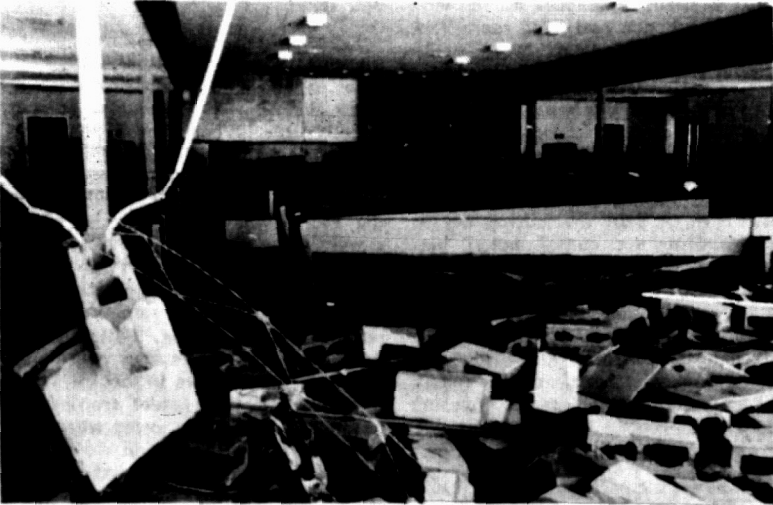
Baptist Work Severely Damaged On Coast



First Baptist Church, Gulfport, located near beach front in that city



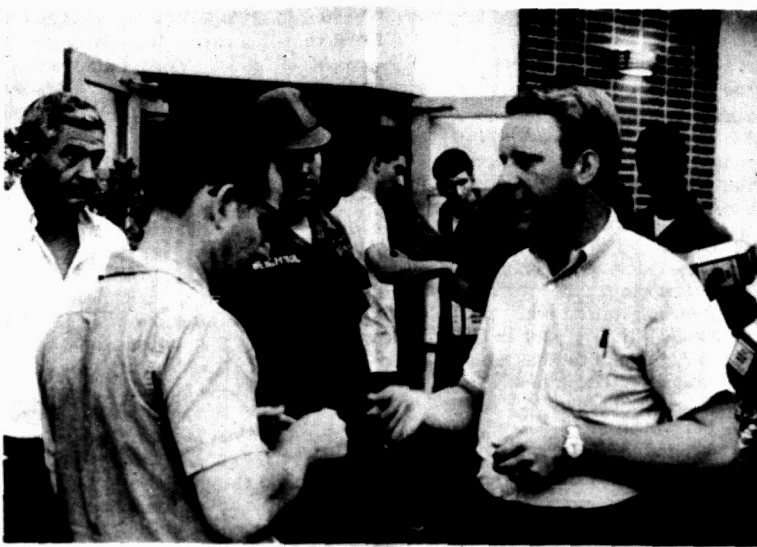
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, LONG BEACH.



INTERIOR VIEW OF First Baptist Church in Long Beach.



DR. GAIL W. DeBORD, pastor of First Baptist Church, Long Beach, notes that services will be held Sunday in a school building.



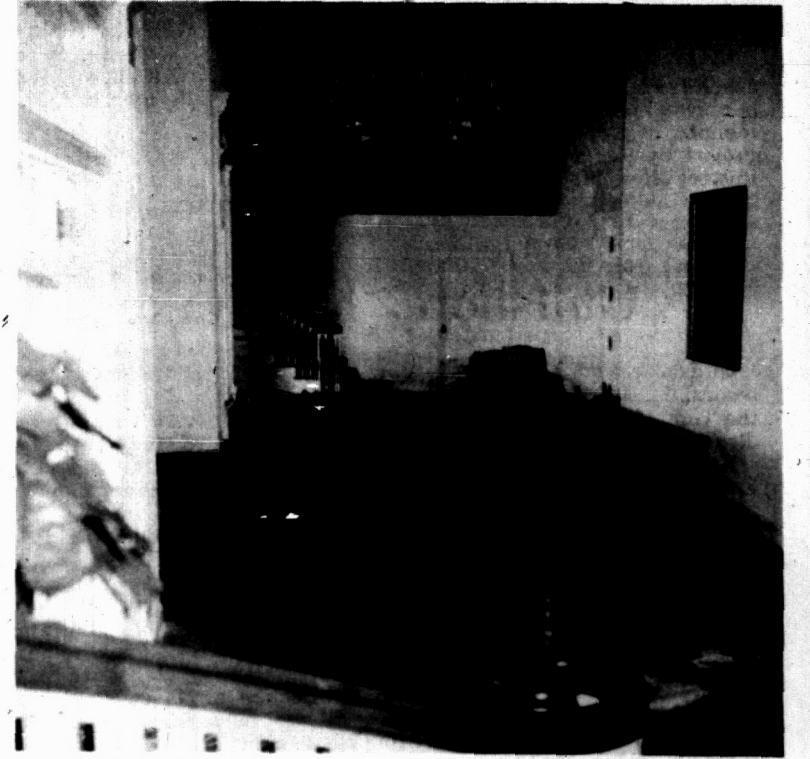
REV. LARRY ROHRMAN, pastor of First Baptist Church, Biloxi, (right) was appointed by the Mayor of Biloxi to help direct distribution of relief supplies.



THREE BAPTIST LEADERS, active in rescue operations talk things over. From left: Rev. J. W. Brister, superintendent of missions of Gulf Coast Association; Dr. John H. Traylor, pastor of First Baptist Church, Gulfport, and Dr. J. Clark Hensley, director of Christian Action Commission of State Convention.



BEACH BOULEVARD Baptist Church in Pass Christian near Gulfshore.



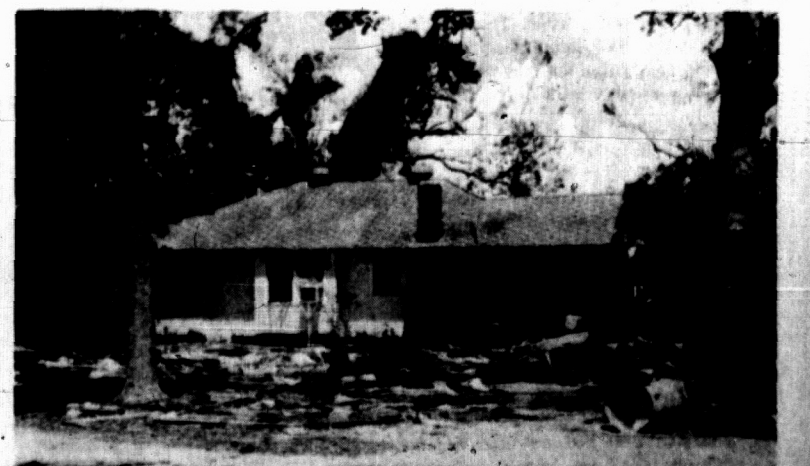
SCENE IN FOYER of First Baptist Church, Gulfport.



DR. JOE T. ODLE, editor of Baptist Record, (left) who was pastor of First Baptist Church, Gulfport for 9 years, and Hugh Hairston, the new educational director of the church, stands beside sign denoting church services the Sunday after the hurricane struck.



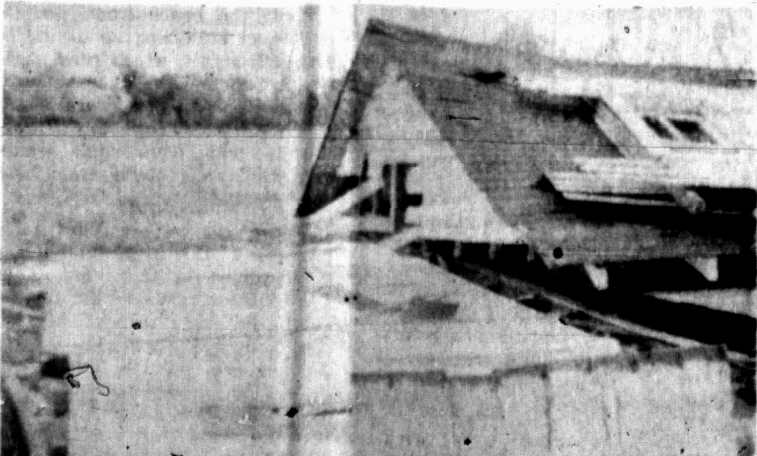
First Baptist Church, Mississippi City.



PASTOR'S HOME of First Baptist Church, Mississippi City.



GREATER MT. ZION Baptist Church (Negro) on Highway 49 north of Gulfport.



FLAT TOP UNITY Baptist Church, Picaune, was completely demolished by Hurricane Camille to the extent of \$10,000, with little insurance. This church is over 40 miles from the coast.



Quiet Talks ON RELIGION IN LIFE

CHESTER E. SWOR

Labor Day Special: "Acres of Diamonds"

A young woman cashier in a large drug store expressed to a friend her longing to become a secretary in a church office. She felt that she could perform in that capacity a more meaningful work than "standing and punching a cash register for eight hours a day."

The friend called her attention to these facts: hundreds of people stand daily for a brief time at her cash register, many of whom are in dire need of a smile, or a word of cheer, or a compassionate inquiry; that, as a dedicated Christian, this cashier could smile the radiant smile, speak the word of cheer, and make the compassionate inquiry. The cashier took another look at her erstwhile dull job, and she literally turned it into a daily ministry of inspiring helpfulness.

Have you felt—at least occasionally—that your job is dull, insignificant, and barren of the possibility of making any real contribution to the personal well-being and happiness of others? Why not take another look, adding three new dimensions as you look?

First, add imagination. One woman added imagination to the boring chore of dish-washing, imagining the running water to be a mountain brook, the iridescent soap suds to be pictures of far-away places of glamour and beauty. Believe it or not, she told me that dish-washing had become her dreaming time!

Second, add dedication. . . . "I shall do my job, however humble or high,

with the earnest desire to make my world better." I knew a street-sweeper in an English city who felt with genuineness that he was helping his God and his city to keep his part of the world cleaner and more wholesome. I know of a porter in a great metropolitan railway station who feels that he is helping to make the world's load lighter as he assists people with their baggage loads and shares with them his joyous philosophy of life. I have read of a garbage collector who feels in a sense of dedicated service that he is helping to keep his world cleaner and more acceptable to God and man.

Third, add the realization that you and your work are of very great significance to God: he knows you personally, he cares about you infinitely, and your work matters significantly to him. If you are doing the job you feel best equipped to do, if you are doing that job to the limit of your ability, if you are doing it in a sense of gratitude for the privilege of work, if you are doing it with the dedicated desire to make a contribution to your world, and if you are doing that job to the glory of God, YOU ARE A JOY TO YOUR GOD AND A BLESSING TO YOUR WORLD.

So, take another look at your job: it may well be literally "acres of diamonds" instead of the dull and barren task you once thought!

(Published by special arrangement with Dr. Swor, 902 Whitworth Street, Jackson, Mississippi.)

We Must Help These Churches And People

(Continued from page 1)

churches, other than to offer disaster loans. Nor do we want them to do more, for we believe in separation of church and state.

However, our churches have suffered great losses, so at the same time we are helping others, we must help them. Buildings must be rebuilt. Church programs must be sustained during the coming period of economic difficulty, while the area is recovering from the storm. In many cases there will be emergency needs of pastors and people, that will not be met by the public appeals.

It is because of this, that the special offering day on September 7 which has been recommended by Dr. Hudgins, and approved by the Executive Committee, offers a special opportunity for all of us to express the

sympathy and concern which we all feel for our friends on the coast.

We should give generously, so that a great fund will be gathered.

It will be placed in the hands of the Convention appointed, special committee, to work with executive committees on the Coast area, to see that every dollar is spent where it is needed most. If that need is for people rather than churches, the committee will know what to do.

We hope that every pastor, every church, and every Baptist in the state will share in this great hour. It will show that we do care for the suffering of our fellow men. It will show how that we have the love of God in our hearts.

Let us make this September 7 offering, the greatest one ever taken in our state.

Gulfshore, Kittiwake

Gulfshore and Kittiwake, the beautiful Baptist Assemblies on the Gulf Coast, have met with disaster.

Kittiwake is gone. Gulfshore, is greatly hurt, with most of its facilities destroyed.

These beloved places where so many thousands of people, young and old, have found spiritual refreshment and blessing, have fallen under the force of the mighty elements of nature.

Just a week ago, hundreds of Mississippians, and some from other states, had sat in the auditorium under the spell of great Bible teachers and preachers, feeding on the Word of God. Just before that hundreds of young people had been there, at youth conferences and music conferences. During the summer many other adults had come to various meetings.

Only last week we were discussing the future of the Bible conference, and setting plans to make the next one bigger and better. Already, your editor had planned an editorial on making the 1970 Conference the largest and best ever known.

Now all of those plans are changed. What of the future? No one knows at this moment. The Executive Committee and

Convention Board, along with Dr. Hudgins, the Assembly Committee, and others will carefully and prayerfully study that, and bring decisions to the convention later. Just now, the concern is for the people of the stricken area and the churches. Decisions concerning the Assemblies will come later.

However, the Assembly and Camp Program of Mississippi Baptists is not dead. Whether it is continued at Gulfshore and Kittiwake, or elsewhere, there will be assemblies and camps. We can be sure of that, for we have learned the great value of this type of program to our work. Moreover, Garaywa, the WMU Camp facility still stands, and its great ministry will continue.

Furthermore, Gulfshore and Kittiwake could never die in the hearts of those who have loved them and been blessed by them. For this past decade, and more at Kittiwake, tens of thousands of lives have been blessed by them, and in those lives they will live on.

As to the immediate future of the Gulf Coast facilities, it is too early yet for the decisions to be made. We know that God will lead those who eventually must decide.

Shelter From The Storm



to have weathered the storm, at least outwardly unscathed.

Later, however, as we went into the building, we saw what raging waves and dirty, sandy water can do to lovely carpets, beautiful pews, a majestic organ, paneled walls, and all the other equipment which makes our modern church buildings so attractive.

At the back of the building, behind the auditorium, the storm had battered a hole in the wall, and allowed the mighty tide to pour in. In a lower section of one of the educational units, the water still was many feet deep, and we saw the church's music library, built over many years, now floating around. Perhaps \$10,000 worth of music, was in soggy ruin.

We walked through the educational area, where the fellowship hall already was being scrubbed, to make ready for services next Sunday. Out on the lawn, standing beside a big boat which had been washed out of the harbor, was a hand-lettered sign, "Services Next Sunday."

It will be many Sundays perhaps, before they will be able to use their lovely new auditorium. Probably, the fellowship hall will be big enough for a while, since, so many of the members have lost their homes, and are scattered to so many places.

Out in front is the hole in the ground where once stood the old sanctuary, which went up in flames last fall. Now that basement is filled with the dirty water. . . quiet, and harmless looking.

Devastation

Just east of the church stood the magnificent new city library, one of the loveliest buildings in the city. Now its beautiful windows are gone and most of its books scattered and ruined. We saw some of the card catalogs lying in the street in front of First Church, more than a block from the library.

We headed east along the beach from First Church. Old houses that had stood every storm for a half century, and some of them much longer, now were broken, battered, sagging, or simply destroyed.

We passed the house formerly used as a pastor's home, an old style, two-story frame building, with screened porches, across each floor. It had moved back off its foundations, the windows were gone, and it was gutted, and terribly damaged inside. I doubt that it ever could be rebuilt, for it also seemed to have flattened, as if some giant hand had pushed it down a few feet. Stunned people were searching through its ruins. My family had stayed in the house through the 1947 hurricane, and hardly a window was broken, even though water reached into the yard. This time people on the lower floor could not have lived. We drove on down the beach. . . house after house, where friends had lived, where I had visited many times, now lay twisted, broken, forlorn. Familiar landmarks were gone. I hardly knew where I was, although I had lived on the street for almost ten years.

This was the highest area of the Gulfport beach, but the damage was unbelievable. And as we moved eastward, the wreckage was worse. There had stood big homes, lovely homes, old homes. . . now they were in desolation.

We passed the Veteran's Administration Hospital. Most of the buildings back somewhat away from the beach had stood, although we are sure some of their lower floors. Near the beach was a large, recently built recreation building for the patients. It was a heap of stones.

We moved on. Amazingly, a brick apartment building still was standing, although its lower floor had been terribly battered, and even brick walls had been beaten out. Inside was devastation.

Just beyond it was the American Legion building, now a shamble of blocks and girders. In front were the memorial guns, still standing defiantly, as if aimed at the sea, which had been so terrible, but now lay quietly and calmly in its bed.

Beyond was the beachfront of Mississippi City, now a part of Gulfport. The houses, the tourist courts, the filling stations all were gone. We got out of our car and walked up toward the First Baptist Church, Mississippi City. Where there had been stores and filling stations, now there were just concrete foundations. Giant trees were down. The houses were still standing a block from the beach, but great piles of lumber and debris were piled up against some of them. In one place there was a terrible odor, and people said they were sure there were some bodies under the wreckage. Rescue workers and search teams, simply had not yet gotten that far.

The Mississippi City church had a large pine tree lying across its front yard, but the roof of the building appeared intact as far as we could see. As we walked inside we saw that the water had risen about three feet in the building, with resultant serious damage. The pastor was not there. Next door was his home, with great stacks of rubbish piled in the yard. Evidently water had not gotten into the house.

Faith

Next to the church, we met some Methodist ladies who had stayed through the storm. The water did not get into their houses very deep, and they were spared. One of them said, "My husband's faith carried us through."

We looked up the impassable street, leading away from the beach, to see fallen trees, houses in the street, etc., and knew how terrible the winds were. We walked back to our car on the beach, to turn around, for we could go no further there. We learned that the next few blocks were even worse, for they were a few feet lower, and the angry tides had reached back for two blocks or more. We could hardly believe what we were seeing.

We went back into the old Gulfport area, and turned back a block on to Second street. The waters had gotten to four or five feet and even deeper there. While the waves had not beaten the houses down, the muddy, slimy waters had done their work. Furniture was soaked, much of it beyond repair. It would be a long time before these houses would be dried out and in good, clean condition, again. However, the people already were starting to work, where they had something left to work on. There was activity everywhere in this area.

We moved on. There was so much to see and to do. We had come to get the story of the effect of the storm on the churches, as well as the people. We went back to First Baptist Church, hoping to see John Traylor the pastor, but were told that he still was out, checking on his people. Passing through the main downtown business section of Gulfport, we found that the terrible waves had not reached most of the downtown area, but simply the beach front, and the first block of buildings, up to and including 13th street, which runs parallel to the beach. Here once beautiful stores and banks, now were shambles. But North of there the damage principally was from high winds, broken windows, driving rain, etc.

Pass Road

We drove out to the Pass Road which runs a mile from the beach. There damaged buildings and signs and fallen trees revealed the fury of the storm, but the waters of the Gulf had not come near them. Traffic was very heavy, but national guardsmen were keeping it under control. We passed the Pass Road Baptist Church, and many men were working on its roof for evidently much of the shingle covering had been blown away. This would mean rain damage on the inside probably, but not from the sea. We have learned since, how-

ever, that the pastor's home had several feet of the sea water, backed up from Biloxi bay, and that damage would be sizable.

On we drove through Bayou View, one of the finest housing areas of Gulfport, and located several miles from the beach. Most of the homes here had only wind and rain damage, and that from falling trees. However, some of the homes are in lower areas, where the waters from Biloxi Back Bay, which reaches all the way back of Gulfport, had piled many feet of water around them, were badly damaged.

We stopped at the home of the pastor of First Baptist Church, Dr. Traylor, who lives in such a home. The water had reached several feet in the home and had covered both of their cars. A sofa was sitting out in the yard drying out. I noted that carpeting had been taken up from steps. Out in the back yard many tall pine trees had gone down, but all had fallen away from the house. We talked to the pastor's wife. "How was it?" we asked. "Terrifying," she said, "like many freight trains passing right over you."

Long Beach

We had to go. Back through Gulfport, and then on toward Long Beach to the West. We were on the Back Road, more than a mile from the beach. Yet in many places, trees and debris already had been moved, to open the road to traffic. Evidences of the force of the storm were everywhere. We passed the Gulf Garden's church building which bore no evidences of damage. Light posts at the Gulfport High Stadium were being repositioned, evidently toppled by the dreadful force of the wind.

Along the road we could look across the railroad toward the beach, and see the trees down, and many houses which bore evidence of storm damage. In Long Beach we turned down the crowded main street toward the beach. Soon we were in front of First Baptist Church which stands one half block from the beach highway. A shopping center between it and the beach had been demolished. Perhaps this protected the church some, but several feet of water roared into its auditorium, leaving the pews and furniture in a misshapen heap. Later we learned that the damage was estimated at \$200,000.00.

We moved out on to the beach highway, one lane of which was still open. In much of the highway the south lane, near the seawall, had been undermined, with the sand washed out, and the road was in ruins. The north lane, had been cleared of debris, and was still open. We were not prepared for what we were about to see.

This was near the eye of the storm, and the whole area, often for a block or more back from the beach, simply had been swept clean by the storm. Where once had stood beautiful homes, and motels and apartments, now there was nothing. Nothing except some foundations, and many fallen trees, and once in a while, a twisted sign. Some trees were still standing but were stripped of foliage. Back up in the trees remaining standing, a block or more from the beach, could be seen piles of lumber and other wreckage represented someone's homes, but now they were simply scrap.

We drove on. Familiar landmarks were missing. I looked for streets where friends had lived, and was not

even sure about the streets as markers were gone. The streets themselves were filled with fallen trees and debris, so one could hardly walk through them. Certainly there was no driving. We sought in vain for the FFA Encampment. We had visited it on numerous occasions, but now it was gone, and even any identifying mark was missing. We looked for the street where Tom Douglas, Manager of Gulfshore lived, but never could find it.

Then we came to the area where the motels, filling stations and shopping center had been, just east of Kittiwake Baptist Assembly. It was unbelievable. Where there had been motels, now was nothing but the swimming pool surrounded by the roads and the slab of concrete where the rooms had been. They were all simply gone. And the houses which once had stood behind some of them on back streets were just gone. At filling stations, sometimes the pumps were standing, battered and bent, and sometimes they were not. The screen of a drive in theatre, stood torn and stark. A steel frame now bowed and buffeted showed where the shopping center had been.

Gulf Palms, the motel next to Kittiwake, was merely an area of concrete.

This was true of Kittiwake next door. Giant pines were down near the entrance. The sign lay in the sand, as if it had surrendered to the elements. We walked down the road where we had driven so often. There was nothing before us except the foundation stones of the main building, the concrete slab where the motel had stood, and foundations of some of the cabins. Not a building of any kind could be seen. Through the trees still standing, we could see the piles of lumber and rubble, and fallen trees. In the distance were the trucks and buses of the assembly, which had been parked on the highest ground of Kittiwake, and somehow had escaped even a falling tree.

The swimming pool stood there alone. Once it had been the center of cabins and the motel building. One could not but reminisce over the wonderful conferences and camps which had been held there.

We had to go. . . we were headed for Pass Christian and Gulfshore. Many of the homes along the shore, and far back in the trees, were gone, or grotesquely misshapen. Some of the oldest homes in Mississippi had stood there, but they were gone, or wrecked now.

(Continued on page 7)

We Surveyed The Hurricane Area

(By The Editor)

They have called it the "worst hurricane ever to hit the American continent." None of those who have lived through it, or afterwards have waded and driven through the devastation will dispute that appraisal.

The vocabulary seems woefully inadequate to describe it. "Disaster, devastation, catastrophe, incredible, ruin, appalling, shocking, heart-breaking," what words shall we use?

What had been one of the most beautiful spots in America, now lay prostrate, stunned, soggy.

Where, along the white beaches, there had been lovely old homes, new modern dwellings, apartments, tourist courts, business buildings, a modern port, now remained only piles of rubbish, sand, and ruin.

Many of the stately old liveoaks were uprooted. Others were barren, stripped of their leaves. Thousands of giant pines had been snapped as if they were toothpicks, so mighty had been the terrible winds.

Your editor, associate editor, director of circulation, and Jim Newton of Baptist Press, Nashville, drove through the stricken area last Wednesday, to see what had happened to our people, our churches, and our denominational property, to be able to tell the story to our readers.

Beach Front

We drove along about 18 miles of the beach front, right through the heart of the storm area, from Mississippi City to Henderson Point (Pass Christian), and did not see a single residence along the beach, and sometimes for blocks back from the beach that appeared to be livable. Almost

all of those which remained standing, appeared to have been gutted by the raging waters. For several miles there was not a house or other building standing, but simply foundations where houses or tourist courts or businesses had been. Even the wreckage had been swept away by the angry waves.

The beach park at Gulfport, where business and civic buildings, a giant marina, popular restaurants, filling stations, an auditorium, a youth building, and a yacht club filled the area stretching toward the port and harbor, now had only the skeletons of steel framed buildings, and piles of rubble, and the port was in ruins. Three sea-going vessels were sitting up on dry land. Later, as we drove along a part of West Beach Boulevard, where some of the sand and debris had been bulldozed away, we saw hanging in a tree a huge rope, such as is used for mooring such ships. It had been wrenched free by the storm, and the ships left to the elements.

Along the highway there just west of the harbor, we saw hundreds of big hemp-covered bundles of materials which had been ready to ship to Viet Nam for use in the war. Thus Camille will effect even our war effort half way around the world.

Nearby, a giant oil tank, perhaps 25 feet high, and 50 feet in diameter, had been swept in from the outer end of the harbor, more than a mile away.

First Church, Gulfport

One of the most dramatic views, was to stand in the ruins of the harbor front at Gulfport and look back toward the beautiful new First Baptist Church, which still was pointing its spire toward the sky, and appeared



W. R. ROBERTS, SBC Annuity Board secretary for Mississippi, grimly looks at sign of Kittiwake Assembly.



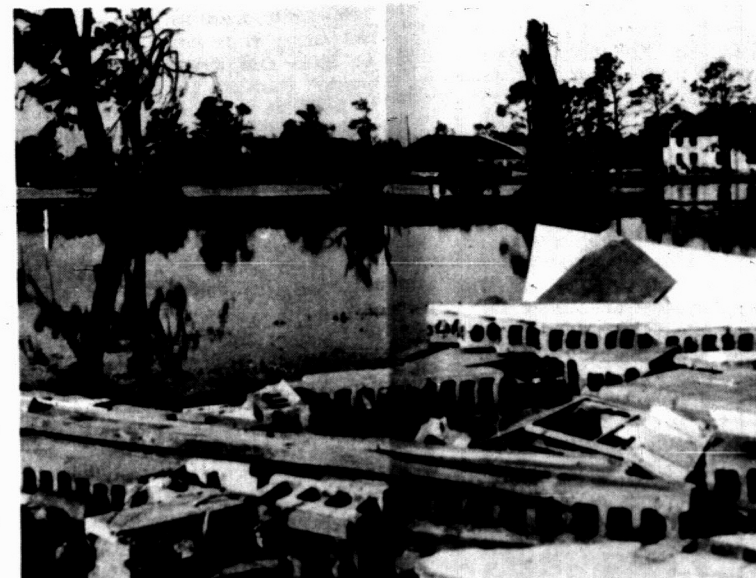
FAMILIAR scene through archway of Gulf Hall at Gulfshore.



INSIDE OF AUDITORIUM at Gulfshore. Note the front wall is knocked out.



REMAINS of brick motel building at Kittiwake.



A VIEW ACROSS the spacious Gulfshore campus.



Interior view of Gulf Hall at Gulfshore



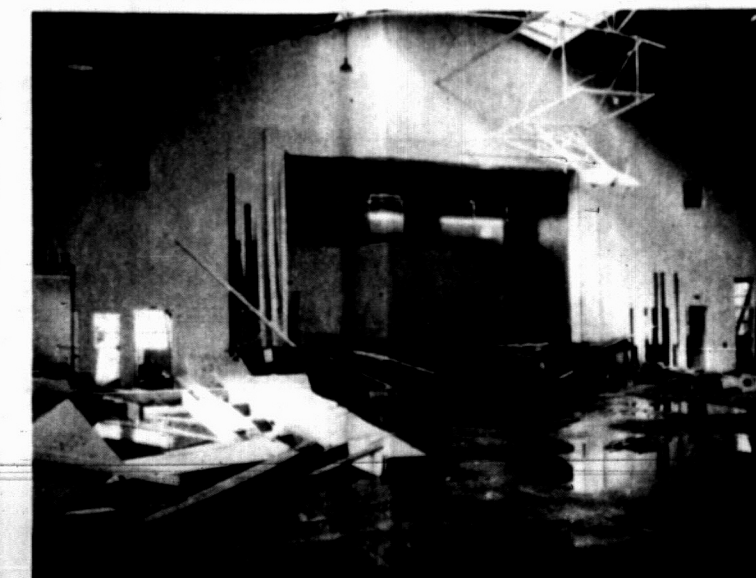
REMAINS of White Cap, (The Manager's house) at Gulfshore.



BARRACKS Building at Gulfshore.



INSIDE Barracks Building at Gulfshore.



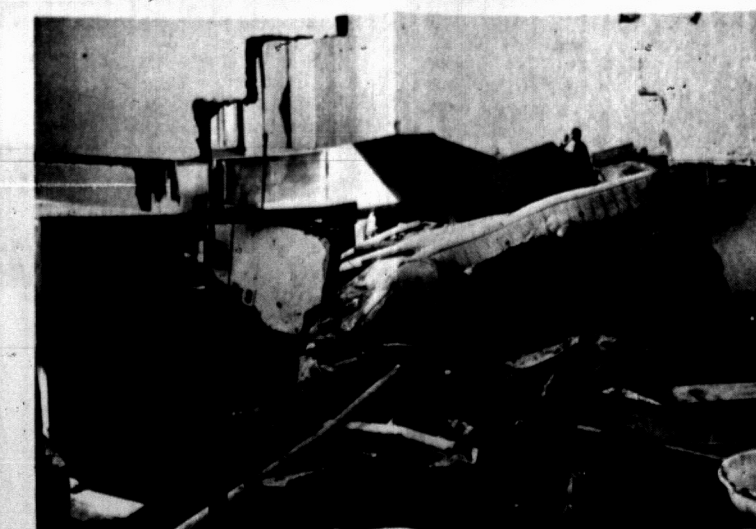
INSIDE Auditorium Building at Gulfshore.



Barracks building at Gulfshore



Interior of Gulf Hall at Gulfshore



BEDROOMS ON second floor of Gulf Hall. (Wall is torn out)



SWIMMING POOL at Gulfshore with tree blown across it.

Hudgins Makes Report On Two State Baptist Assemblies

(Continued from page 1)

enter it awhile ago we had to climb over this mass of debris. Inside the auditorium the organ and piano are gone and the platform is practically nonexistent. Scattered all over the floor are the remains of five hundred steel chairs that were piled in the choir loft on last Saturday, and, incidentally, we think we saw the remains of a portion of our organ down the highway as we came in awhile ago — but we are not positive. The steel arch that Mr. Blackwell put in just above the platform was torn out by the force of the gale and lies twisted and gnarled on the floor of the auditorium.

The barracks building adjoining has not much damage to its roof nor to its upper story strangely enough, but the lower floor is completely stripped and the siding on one side is completely torn away — front, back and end — and on the left side, as you face it from the driveway, at least half or two-thirds of the siding has been sucked out and the contents have been thoroughly drenched.

Further on toward the Gulf building as we look — it is as we had feared — there remains only a pile of rubble where the once very useful Children's Building existed. The roof was not blown away, if indeed that be the roof to that building, — and it's a little difficult to tell — but it seems it just had collapsed on the rubble. The entire walls and front and the roof itself have been tumbled in one mass of rubble.

And then still further toward the Gulf building where we had a classroom and the Bookstore, there is nothing but a shambles of twisted and splintered lumber. Scarcely would anyone know that a building ever existed in that area. Then, one would have to have been here to have realized that nearby there was once a masonry building, housing an infirmary on the lower floor and barracks on the top floor. There is absolutely no visible sign of that building anywhere. And down below it the barracks that was near and almost

under the water tank is nonexistent.

Where the cafeteria was, adjoining the Gulf building itself, there is nothing but a twisted, matted pile of rubble. Steel, window frames, concrete blocks, roofing trusses, air conditioning vents, and kitchen equipment are all piled in one conglomerate general mass, and one would have to know that it once was a cafeteria to realize that that was the function that this place once served. It's rather strange, and I have been trying to understand it, that the cafeteria end so completely demolished is utterly different from the main Gulf building itself. It is as if you had put a partition between the cafeteria and the building. Something seems to have prevented the main building itself in that wing from disintegrating.

Class Room Building
Now, let me leave the main Gulf building for a moment and come to what many of you remember the Classroom building. There is nothing remaining of it but a pile of kindling wood about four feet high piled up against the south end of the Gulf building. Next to that, where the Driftwood apartments were, where many of you have stayed and where only last week, among others, Mrs. Clayburn and Mrs. Quinn of our own Baptist Building Staff were in one apartment, Dr. and Mrs. Cauthen were in another, and Dr. Hardee Kennedy was yet in another — that building which has been such a delight to many of you staff people, if you are listening to this narration, is a total loss. All that is left of that again are some wall blocks and some roofing material, — all in a tangled pile and one would have to know that once a beautiful apartment building was there. As you go back of these buildings, toward the gulf, you can see bathtubs, lavatories, commodes, various plumbing fixtures, pipe, and faucets, — things that have been torn out of the walls and that lie there on the ground. What a scene of utter desolation and havoc. It is almost unbelievable, even as we stand here and look at it!

But the most amazing thing to me is the Old Commodore House, Whitecap. The only thing left of it is the huge concrete, double curving steps that went up to the second floor. Those are twisted and either blown or washed out of line. But they are still there. And there is a pile of concrete blocks all in a jumble. But to believe that commodious and well built building is completely gone — again it's almost beyond our comprehension.

Many of you will remember that just as we came into the grounds, or as we did come into the grounds, there was the watchman's cottage (Mr. Reeves, the security man, has just come on the grounds this afternoon and I had a chance to visit with him a minute) — that building is completely gone; the fence, the signs, everything that would indicate what this was have been blown away. As I stand here in front of the gymnasium, I look to my left toward what once was the watchman's house and see a couple of air conditioners lying on the ground. These have been sucked out of windows somewhere. Here immediately in front of me is a bright orange chair that came out of Whitecap, and there is a fiberglass chair that once belonged to a breakfast room set. There is an electric coffee pot! Although it is minus a top and the insides, it's certainly not battered up. And here, almost in front of me, a metal box — a strong metal box — with a sign on it that says "Black and Decker." I looked at it thinking perhaps here was Grady Blackwell's power saw. But the container is entirely empty and how it was blown here in such good condition nobody knows.

The people who lived in the lovely tan brick house, Mr. and Mrs. Mathis, have lost everything they had on that lot. As we stand here and look that way, and I have moved down the driveway a little bit toward the watchman's house, — there isn't a pillar, there isn't a wall, there isn't a foundation, a curtain wall — there

isn't anything. In fact, I think I see two bathtubs maybe — one bathtub at least and perhaps the other is an air conditioning unit. But everything else is gone — it's just completely wiped out.

Strangely enough, the small shrubbery around here is not too badly damaged. Some of the big trees have been blown down, and over on the fill by the railroad, under the water tank, and back up toward the barracks building and the auditorium, the whole railroad bank is two-thirds filled with debris, trash, lumber, wall paneling, roofing, bits of metal, and the remainder of old boats. It is just a complete devastated mess.

Many of you wonder about the fishing pier — it's completely gone — no sign of it! The other pier that held so many of you in the early morning and late afternoon and enjoyed by so many of us — that completely has gone.

And as I try to describe to you very inadequately this scene of desolation, out beyond us there are a few small whitecaps on the gulf; otherwise it's back down to its ordinary level. The wind is blowing very gently, and one would have to be told even to imagine that water and wind combined just a few hours ago to wreak such havoc upon us here.

Now, this, I am sorry to say, is the bad news, even worse than anything we have said thus far. I am not a builder. I am not a contractor. I make no pretense at being an engineer or a designer or an architect, but I would venture almost anything I have that there is not a single structure left on these grounds that economically can be repaired. Perhaps the barracks building might be renovated, but I am afraid to gut it and to start all over would actually cost more than to build it new. The building used as an auditorium, in my judgment, again would cost far more to repair

than it would to replace it. The gymnasium, I am not too positive about. The walls seem to be with some cracks. The roof does not look like it has escaped damage and the inside of it is completely stripped. The Gulf Building, our main administration building, if I'm any judge at all, (and we could not get up to it) appears to have had more damage than at any time ever before. Some of the structure evidently has been moved a little out of line. Mr. Blackwell says that his judgment is that we have major problems in the structure itself. There has been a good deal of roof damage in various places and the interior of the lower floor is completely a shambles, and although I do not profess to pass judgment, I would have to say that it is my opinion that we now have about twenty-four and seven-tenths acres of valuable land right on the gulf at Henderson Point. But I regret very much to say to you that unless I miss my estimate terribly, we do not have an economically repairable building left on our campus.

Thus, as the rain clouds form in the distance, and it appears we shall soon be visited with another shower, with a heart filled with great regret; with many memories; and recalling that yonder by the Whitecap, where Glenn Perry and I stood with Dr. Quarles twelve or thirteen years ago and offered to buy this property, and having seen it grow and develop and become such a part of so many of your lives, I turn away with a sense of great sadness, and actually a lump in my throat, because beautiful Gulf-shore Assembly is prostrate in front of my eyes.

But, thank God, not one of our staffers — none of our employed people — none of our regular staff — were injured. They had some inconvenience and worked like Trojans for forty-eight hours, all to no avail, it turned out — there has been no loss of life,

no injury; only devastation from this the most terrific hurricane that has ever hit the United States.

I would not say that I am discouraged! I am sad. I am sad because this meant so much to so many. But, you know, I have a feeling that the good Lord never allows anything to happen to His people that in it He cannot be His best, do His best, prove His best, and make available His best to those He loves. Out of this, beyond any doubt in the world, somewhere out in the future — I do not know how or when — there will come, pray God, something for His glory that may be even bigger and better than anything we have ever dreamed!

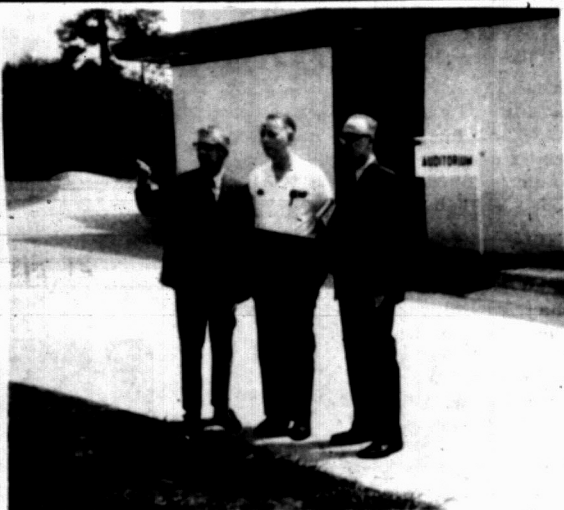
It's with such a faith in our God that I bring you this report. Though we may have entailed some loss, it is a loss of material things; but dear friends, it would seem to me that we are coming to 1970 to begin a new decade, realizing in a more wonderful way than we have ever done before that, "It is not by might, nor by power, but my Spirit saith the Lord of Hosts." And as we look forward to whatever the Lord may have for us in the future, I urge you, along with me, to dedicate yourself to one great purposeful ideal and design. Let us, no matter this or what, — let us in our churches in 1970, and in the remaining months of this year, 1969, make it possible, by our own personal self commitment, that we shall have the greatest spiritual awakening ever experienced in this generation. May the greatest revival of church membership Mississippi Baptists have ever seen come about as each of us give ourselves to this emphasis in the months to come.

—W. Douglas Hudgins

(Transcribed from a tape description made on the grounds on Tuesday, August 19, 1969)



Dr. J. Hardee Kennedy, professor of New Testament at New Orleans Seminary, conference leader, (right), discusses scripture passage with Rev. and Mrs. Allen Webb of Macon.



Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins, executive secretary, (left), shows beautiful campus of Gulfshore Assembly to Dr. Conally Evans, Orlando, Fla., speaker, (right) and Rev. Horace Carpenter of Roxie.

LAST MEETING HELD AT GULFSHORE Bible Conference - Aug. 11-15



Rev. and Mrs. L. R. Alford of D'O and their daughter, Joy, browse in Baptist Bookstore Exhibit.



Mrs. Clyde Bryan of Jackson, pianist, and David Ford, Port Arthur, Texas, music leader, pose for photographers as they plan for a musical number.



Three leaders have moment of fellowship in snack shop. From left: Rev. Larry Rohrman, pastor of First Church, Biloxi, conference leader; Dr. V. L. Stanfield, professor of preaching, New Orleans Seminary, conference leader and Rev. Harold Bryson, Carthage.



Three ladies have moment of fellowship after evening session. From left: Mrs. W. Douglas Hudgins, Mrs. Baker James Cauthen and Mrs. J. Clark Hensley.

PASTOR-DEACON RETREATS

ALL Pastors and Deacons are invited for two days of fellowship, recreation, inspiration and Bible study.

The Bible study leaders are: Dr. E. R. Pinson at Holmes State Park; Dr. Don H. Stewart at Paul B. Johnson State Park; Dr. James L. Travis at Wall Doxey State Park; and Dr. John F. Carter at Roosevelt State Park. Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins will bring the closing evening message at each conference.

Each program begins at 10:00 a.m. and continues through the second afternoon.

Total Cost for the TWO DAYS: \$4.00

Bring Pillow and Linens

For reservations write:

Therman V. Bryant

COOPERATIVE MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

P. O. Box 530

Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Pictured are Pastors speaking in their areas:

HOLMES STATE PARK

September 1 and 2



PAUL B. JOHNSON STATE PARK

September 4 and 5



WALL DOXEY STATE PARK

September 8 and 9



ROOSEVELT STATE PARK

September 11 and 12



Pictures of all Program Personnel not available



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

THE INTERNATIONAL LESSON

LIFE AND WORK CURRICULUM

God's People In Confusion

Peter: From Weakness To Witness

By Clifton J. Allen

Judges 2 to 3:6; 5:7; 8:33-35; 17:1-4; 21:25

In our survey study of "The Story of God and His People," we are concerned primarily to learn how God dealt with his people and wrought out his purpose through them. This lesson covers the period following the conquest of Canaan when there was no centralized government, no central capital, and no king. Accurately, it is described as a time of confusion. One factor was the incompleteness of the conquest. The Israelites did not completely drive out the idolatrous tribes who were living in the land. The presence of these idolatrous groups became a snare to the people of God. Our lesson gives us a summary story of the perversion of the people and measures God used for judgment and to inspire repentance.

The Lesson Explained

Judges In Israel (2:16-19)

The background of these verses must be kept in mind. Joshua and his generation had died. The Israelites adopted many of the evil customs of the native inhabitants, resorting in many instances to intermarriage. The degrading and immoral religion of the Canaanites was a snare and caused many of the Israelites to turn to idolatry. Thus, generally, God's people forgot their solemn covenant to serve him. The book of Judges tells of recurring periods of apostasy from the Lord, divine chastisement leading to repentance, and God's mercy in raising up judges for the deliverance of his people. When the people turned away from God, he abandoned them to oppression by some surrounding nation as a means of discipline and correction. When backsliding turned to repentance, God wrought deliverance. God's judgement was not arbitrary but corrective. His mercy was not indifference to sin but redemptive concern for his people.

The judges were not outstanding

men. They were marked chiefly by valor and initiative which led people to rally around them. They were the best persons available in times of crisis to accomplish God's purpose.

Gideon, Man Of Faith (6:11-14)

Gideon is chosen for special consideration as a judge who illustrated uniquely the importance of faith and obedience toward God. At a time when the Israelites were brought to unusual distress by the Midianites and Amalekites, God called Gideon, a humble farmer, but a "mighty man of valor," to be his nation's deliverer. Gideon showed initiative by leading his own family and neighbors to true worship. This called for courage and decisive action. Gideon destroyed the altar of Baal and the image of Astarte to show the impotence of baalism and to impress on the people the judgment of God on baalism. Then Gideon followed God's directions by reducing his army to three hundred and depending on the strategy of faith for victory over the Midianites. Broken pitchers, lighted torches, and trumpet blasts could be used by God to bring the Midianite host to flight and subsequent destruction. Gideon illustrates God's use of humble-minded men, who can be transformed under a conviction of a divine call and by the presence of the Lord to become the brave leaders of a nation and fearless champions of true religion.

Forgetting God (8:33-35)

The sad refrain throughout the book of Judges is that the Israelites turned from God again and again "and went a-whoring after Baalim." Again and again, they forgot the Lord their God, in spite of all that he had done to deliver them from Egypt and later from their enemies in the land of Canaan. They soon forgot Gideon, though they had wanted to make him their king. They were victims of the love of ease and a religion of indulgence and fleshly desire. The cycle began again: waywardness, chastisement, repentance, and through the mercy of God—deliverance. God did not give up. His power and mercy preserved even a wayward nation that this nation might yet become faithful and fulfill its calling.

John 1:42; Matt. 26:69-75; Acts 2:14, 26-33

By Bill Duncan

Simon was a fisherman from the village of Bethsaida who was the younger brother of Andrew, the first disciple of Jesus Christ. Through the years, Simon was considered a large man physically. Many adjectives have been used to describe this man—temperamental, impetuous, and at times violent. He was a friendly, likable person and others were naturally drawn to him. He was married and the only disciple that was.

The Beginning (John 1:42)

One day Andrew came to Simon and announced that he had found the Messiah. Andrew said that he was Jesus of Nazareth whom even John the Baptist recognized. Simon had heard of this man but had not seriously considered him. At the beginning something very dramatic happened. At first Jesus changed the name of Simon to Peter. The name stood for rock. What a contrast to such a changeable character. This is the name by which we call the second disciple. This one who was so strong that he was someone to count on in a crisis.

Peter like his brother Andrew, reminds us that Christ can use all persons in His service. Andrew without great gifts, and changeable Peter with great ability both became worthy disciples of the Master. If we give ourselves in dedicated service to Christ, He can use us.

The Fall (Matt. 26:69-72)

Peter was always under pressure but on the night in which Jesus was tried by the Roman officials he blew his relationship to the Lord. The young girl tried to accuse Peter of being a follower of Christ. Most people would not have enough evidence against them for a conviction of be-

fully. . . . I gave him the jug of water. . . . He thanked me and thanked me and went away. . . . I realized that I did not know what it was to be thirsty.

Another unforgettable scene. As we passed through one street they were distributing milk to passersby. Just ahead of us was a pick-up truck, with a boy of about eight standing in the back.

The truck drove on, and we moved along just behind it. The boy eagerly tore that half-gallon of milk open, and turned it up to take long draughts. He drank and drank. Finally, contentedly he moved it away from his face, and wiped his mouth. A smile of satisfaction covered his countenance. We had never known real hunger for milk either. We were learning lessons.

Just before curfew began at six o'clock, we drove out of the stricken area. It had been a long day, a tiring one, but one we never would forget.

Etched upon our minds were scenes which we hoped never to see again. Yet we knew that we actually hadn't seen the true damage of the storm. We hadn't been able to talk to people who had lost everything; to parents whose children had died; or families or persons who did not know what had happened to their loved ones. This had happened hundreds of times. All we had seen was the physical damage; bad as it was, the other was so much worse. But in our souls there was rising a new sympathy, a new love, a new concern, for people in trouble.

We had seen something of the meaning of trouble and sorrow, as we seldom had seen it before, and we prayed God that somehow, we would have more sympathy and love because of it.

Not only for the Gulf Coast but for all needy people everywhere.

ing a follower of Christ. However as the evidence was presented, Peter denied all connection with Christ. Before we condemn Peter, we need to stop and remember how many times we have done the same thing. The one, who had pulled his sword in defense of Jesus, forgot that he was the rock and denied that he had ever known Jesus of Nazareth. Of course it was for just a moment, but the damage was done.

When people fall like Peter, they need to be as sorrowful as Peter was. The nature to fall is human. The desire to repent is from above. The best of men fall in temptation. The failure is that men will stay down. When men with sorrow repent God is willing to forget. We all deny our relationship, when we refuse to have the right relationship, to God.

The Preacher (Acts 2:14-38) When Pentecost came, God's spirit, filled the weak disciple Peter. He then became a rock, strong and steady. He became a rock of strength to the other disciples in his courageous witness for Christ. He became the recognized leader of the disciples in the days that followed Christ's resurrection. He was not afraid now because his faith was filled with courage because of the awareness of Christ's presence.

When the opportunity arose, Peter stood and preached on the day of Pentecost. He tried to explain to all what had happened to the merry band of disciples. When the people asked what must they do to be saved, Peter answered with assurance. Peter said it was the Holy Spirit that had caused them to ask the question. First, they needed to repent. They had killed the Messiah for which they must have a complete turn about. Second, they need to be baptized. This would not save them, but they could make a witness that would be open and a commitment to Christ that would be meaningful.

The message was hard to receive because it was pointed and required much of the disciples. However if they would be forgiven, and they would also receive the Holy Spirit. This was their greatest need.

Peter preached many other wonderful messages that are recorded in Acts. All of these messages show what hardship the disciples had to endure. But he was not alone for now he had the friends and the Lord for his strength. We too have the Holy Spirit and we need to be true at all cost.

WANT TO BUY USED PEWS
The Calvary Baptist Church would like to buy some used church pews. Contact Howard Hill, Calvary Baptist Church, Canton, Miss. 39046 Phone 859-5476

Go better with Coke
Jackson Coca Cola Bottling Co.

OLD BIBLES REBOUND
A price, binding and style to meet every need. Quality workmanship guaranteed. Write for illustrated price folder. "Internationally known specialists" NORRIS BOOKBINDING CO. Box 305-C - Greenwood Miss. 38930

an electronic organ should sound like an organ
but surprisingly some seldom do. Traditional organ tone was traditionally expensive to achieve, but today Allen offers worshipful, reverent organ tone quality for every requirement, in every price range. See, hear and compare Allen organs yourself. Visit our studio this week.

Allen organs
...exclusively
WERLEIN'S FOR MUSIC
517 E. Capitol Street
Jackson, Miss. 39201 253-3517
Also
Edgewater Shopping City
Biloxi, Miss. 864-4590

Borden's STRAWBERRIES & CREAM
MORE FRUIT
MORE FLAVOR

BIBLES REBOUND & REPAIRED.
Write for free leather samples, price list. Ramires & Sons Book Mfg., Box 1880, Odessa, Texas.

PEW PLATES

Engraved Metal & Plastic Made by

DIXIE RUBBER STAMP CO.

516 E. Annie St.
Jackson, Miss.
Dial 948-1881

Capital FLORAL
company, inc.
Phone FL 5-2471
LADIES & GENTS
Accessories—1967

Thursday, August 28, 1968

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7



Telegram

123P GDT AUG 21 69 N8A245 CTA375

NS CT NHC117 PB PD5 FAX NASHVILLE TENN 21 1251P GDT

JOE ODLE EDITOR THE BAPTIST RECORD

BAPTIST BUILDING JACKSON MISSISSIPPI

YOU MIGHT WANT TO CARRY A BOX IN YOUR NEXT ISSUE TO THIS EFFECT: THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD ANNOUNCES THAT IS IT WILL FOLLOW

ITS CUSTOMARY POLICY IN DISASTERS OF THIS SORT BY REPLACING CURRENT PERIODICAL CURRICULUM LITERATURE WHICH WAS LOST BY CHURCHES AS A RESULT OF HURRICANE CAMILLE. SUCH REPLACEMENT WILL BE WITHOUT COST, AND DEPENDS UPON AVAILABILITY OF THE NEED ISSUES. CHURCHES DESIRING PERIODICAL LITERATURES REPLACEMENT SHOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH THE CHURCH LITERATURE DEPT BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD 127 NINTH AVENUE NORTH NASHVILLE TENNESSEE 37203 THANKS— AND OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE IN THESE DEVASTATING DAYS

GOMER R. LESHCH

Sunday School Board Wires That It Will Replace Literature Lost by Churches In Storm Area

MONTANA REVIVAL REPORTS DELAYED

Our schedule had called for printing this week of the reports from the Crusade of the Americas revivals in Montana. This special issue on Hurricane Camille, makes it necessary that we delay these reports until a later issue.—Editor

PIANO TUNER TECHNICIAN
Quality tuning, repair, and refinishing. Old Pump Organs completely rebuilt and refinished. All work guaranteed, reference if needed. Phone 887-1634 or 887-2982 Indianola, Mississippi
D. L. ATKISON

Cushions For Church Pews
Comfort and beauty. At prices you can afford. Contact us for free estimate. **Flowers Cushion Service** P. O. Box 587-M Keene, Texas 76859 Ph. 817-645-9283

REGISTERED FIRST MORTGAGE CHURCH BONDS
7 1/2%
Interest payable semi-annually
Call or Write
CHURCH INVESTORS
Phone 451-5431 4095 Clairmont Road Atlanta, Ga. 30341

OFFICE SUPPLIES—FURNITURE—SAFES
Folding Chairs—Banquet Tables
MISSISSIPPI STATIONERY COMPANY
PRINTING AND LITHOGRAPHING
277 East Pearl Street Jackson, Mississippi

PASTORS, MAY WE HELP YOU EXTEND YOUR MINISTRY?
When your church member's troubles (marriage, family, faith loss, grief, confusion, personality conflicts, etc.) exceed your facilities or time available, we will be glad to accept your referral for "depth" pastoral counseling and help. (We also utilize psychological testing for normal persons who are in need of deeper insight into personal problems.)
NON-CLINICAL
BIBLE-CENTERED COUNSELING
(Both Groups and Private)
A non-denominational arm of the church—in therapy and support—only one step beyond the immediate church family.
THE RELIGIOUS COUNSELING CENTER OF MISSISSIPPI
Suite 512, The Woodland Hills Bldg., Jackson, Miss. 39218—Phone 362-1196
A non-profit agency of The Mississippi Religious and Pastoral Counseling Fdn., Inc.

HEADQUARTERS
FOR ALL TYPES OF
School & Church Furniture
• Complete stock of chairs, tables, desks and furnishings for Classroom, Library, Sunday School, Auditorium, Cafeteria and every School and Church use.
EVERYTHING FOR THE SCHOOL AND CHURCH!
MISSISSIPPI School Supply Co.
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

WHY TAKE LESS?
RECEIVE **7% INTEREST** ON YOUR MONEY
INTEREST PAID SEMI-ANNUALLY ON First Mortgage Baptist Building Bonds
VISIT, WRITE OR CALL TODAY
BAPTIST BUILDING SAVINGS, INC.
716 MAIN LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS PHONE FR 4-2481

Distinctive CHURCH INTERIORS
You are invited to investigate our new and complete line of beautiful church furniture. Among the features offered are:
• Designed for "contour comfort" • Made from selected hardwoods of highest quality • Custom-designed for your special need • Hand-rubbed finishes of enduring beauty • Installation supervised by our skilled craftsmen
CHURCH INTERIORS, INC.
MANUFACTURERS OF CONTOUR COMFORT CHURCH FURNITURE NEWTON, MISSISSIPPI 39345
We are interested in your new line of "Contour Comfort" church furniture
☐ Please send complete information
☐ Have representative call
Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____

Devotional

The Uncertain Frontier In Our National Destiny

By Fred Fowler, Pastor, Clarke-Venable Church, Decatur

Two Alaskan natives were watching the construction of a lighthouse. They asked a workman the purpose of it and were told, "It's to keep the fog from causing ships to run aground." The first day it was in operation, these same two natives stood near its base watching as a bank of fog came rolling in. One turned to the other and said, "See I told you it no work. The light she flash, the bell she ding ding, the horn she woo woo, but the fog she come rolling in just the same."

Perhaps there are those in America who have as much difficulty understanding the purpose and destiny of our nation as the Alaskan natives did with the lighthouse. When our nation was being built many were seeking religious freedom. Some were seeking to escape from the penalty of their crimes and the motives of the others could be classified somewhere in between. But from the very beginning we have been a religious people. This is historically true. I believe no one can read the history of our country without realizing that the Bible and the principles of Christ have been the guiding geniuses that have guided our land.

However, this writer believes that the future destiny of our nation is not determined by the past but by the present. It is not determined by religion as such but by every individual practicing the very presence of God. Where our forefathers relied so heavily upon the protection of divine providence, we have lost this concept of God. Even the casual observer would describe the average Americans belief in God to be very vague except that God is pretty much like us. He is terribly concerned about our cause and he will help us proffer everybody in our way so that we may remain the most affluent nation on earth.

The people of our nation no longer rely upon the Bible for God's moral judgments but rely instead upon their own personal judgments making exceptions to every moral principle in their own personal favor. The people of our nation have rejected the rule ethic which have swept away the external and the trivial, but has also left man adrift in a moral sea with no rudder and no compass. The people of America desire action rather than moral platitudes, and want the freedom to do their own thing or "the loving thing" rather than acknowledge the wishful longing for the reassurance of God's presence that is often found behind the gaily arrogance and rebellion.

The destiny of our nation will not be determined by Washington, Wall Street or the military industrial complex but by the moral strength of its citizens to walk right before God. The strength of the Christian citizenship was made up from the beginning of "not many wise according to worldly standards, not many powerful, not many of noble birth." (1 Cor. 1:26).

Revival Dates



Rev. Mike Gilchrist Jimmy Soelen

Calvary Church, Meridian: Sept. 7 - 14; Rev. Mike Gilchrist, L. A. Charles, La., evangelist; Jimmy Soelen, Dallas, Texas, singer; worship services 10 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. (Homecoming Day, Sunday Sept. 14); Rev. W. Otis Seal, pastor.

Come Church, Como: youth led revival; Aug. 27-31; Rev. Jimmy Craft, Memphis, evangelist; Jimmy Goolsby, Canton, music director; Miss Rosemary Suddeth, Tinsley, pianist, all are students at Mississippi College; services 7:30 p. m. each evening and 11:00 a. m. on Sunday. There will be various youth activities during the week. Rev. Eugene Strickland, pastor.

Calvary Church, Waynesboro: Aug. 31-Sept. 5; Rev. Bill Cox, full-time evangelist from New Orleans will be preaching; Don Moore, minister of music, First Church, Aberdeen, song leader; services 7:30 p. m. with regular worship hours on Sunday; Rev. Jerry Henderson, pastor.

Rolling Fork To Honor Pastor and Wife

Reverend and Mrs. R. E. Kyzar, First Baptist Church of Rolling Fork, will be honored on August 31, 1969, with a Reception in the Church Fellowship Hall. They have served in this church for ten years and this is to be an anniversary celebration for them.

All present and past church members, as well as area friends, are invited to the Reception, from 4:00 to 6:00 on August 31, 1969. The regular Evening Worship Hour will follow at 6:30 p. m.

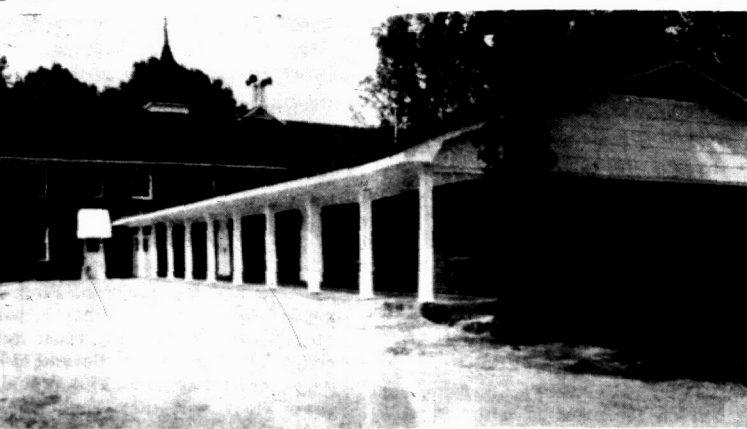
The reception was originally scheduled for Aug. 17, but had to be postponed.

Damascus (Lincoln)

Sets Anniversary Service Aug. 31

Damascus Church in Lincoln County will celebrate its 110th birthday on August 31. The church has invited all former pastors who are still living to be present on that day, as well as all former members and friends of the church. Morning services will begin at 10:30. Dinner on the ground will be served and everyone is invited to bring a basket lunch and stay for this fellowship. An afternoon service will begin at 1 o'clock. There will be no night service.

Troubles are like babies, the more you nurse them, the larger they grow.



Houka To Dedicate Children's Building

HOULKA CHURCH will dedicate their new children's and fellowship building September 14. The building contains 2700 square feet of space, housing nursery, Beginner, Primary, and an adult department, a modern kitchen and fellowship hall. Building Committee: Leland Johnson, Tommy Washington, Dan Sims; Mrs. Paul Griffin; Mrs. Hardy Keith. Furnishing Committee: Mrs. Buddy Buchanan, Mrs. Thomas Davis, Mrs. Lois Strother, Buddy Buchanan; Atwell Washington. Fund Raising: Loyd Collums, T. M. Parks, W. F. Thomas, Frank Powell, Buddy Buchanan.



Aerial view of Pass Christian with Gulf Palms Motel identified by two swimming pools located near center of photo. Kittiwake grounds at left.

Stewards Are We

TUNE: BLESSED REDEEMER
Words by Nell Henley
Olive Branch, Miss.

Father, forgive us for being so blind;
Thinking and saying, "All this is mine."
Thou art the Giver, stewards are we,
Help us, Lord Jesus, this truth to see.
Father, forgive us, for selfish are we,
Let not this sinning in our hearts be.

Fill them with love, Lord, make us like Thee,
Faithful stewards then we shall be.

Father, forgive us, we've grown so cold;
Years we've been straying, far from Thy fold.
Help us, Lord Jesus, Thy will to see,
Help us, Thy children, come back to Thee.

CHORUS:
Help us remember, lest we forget,
That day at Calvary when Christ we met.
Help us to see Him there on the cross,
Suffering and dying because we were lost.



THE SOLUTION OF
CHURCH FINANCIAL
PROBLEMS AND AN
ANNUAL BUDGET
CAMPAIGN GO HAND-IN-HAND!

I Lived Through Hurricane Camille

(Continued from page 1)

heavy air conditioning equipment, window units, water coolers that my staff just could not do anything about. We did however manage to have a god meal. I had asked Mr. Thiele to prepare us a steak supper. I figured they had deserved it and by that time I was so far in the "red" seeing what was going to happen that a few more dollars would not matter. Mr. Thiele went overboard and picked the meat out himself and he did the cooking. I know we were hungry but I have never had a better steak in all my life and it was just a marvelous thing, the staff had a oneness and a unity that was just great. We had a little talk about procedures and at that time we thought we were going to allow them to go to a shelter and stay if they wanted to remain. Of course, all were told they had the option of going home should they so desire. But most of them seem to want to stay and as the hurricane progressed it became increasingly apparent to the house parents and to me that it would be unwise for us to try and do this. We therefore started to trying to find homes for these young people and that was a pretty frantic thing because a lot of people were leaving and others had other people in with them and it was not as simple as it may sound. But when we did get the word out we not only had enough homes but ended up with more than enough homes and not enough staffers to go around. We had Allen Hurst in our home and the Clements family from Kittiwake, they later decided to go to another place but at first we had all four of them with us along with Allen Hurst. As we continued to listen to the radio and T.V. and the weather reports kept getting worse, we began to have feelings that would make us wonder if we had made the right decision. I really do not have words to tell you what the night itself was like.

The wind began picking up in the late Sunday afternoon but not to any tremendous degree but by nightfall we were having pretty high wind. Then we were glued to the TV until it went off. I do not remember exactly somewhere around nine or something like that. We had brought a Coleman lantern along and transistor radio so we got light going and started to listening to the radio and tried to while away the hours. We flashed a light out every once in a while and looked at how the trees were bending, but we had no idea what it was really like but things kept hitting the roof,

we assumed that it was small branches and pine cones.

Later on in the night there was a tremendous crash and things fell out of our cabinet and we went flying into the den, we were in the living room at the time, and saw a pine tree sticking through our ceiling and water just pouring down on the floor and that was an experience that I do not guess we will ever forget. It was a very frightening experience not only the damage to the house but because we did not have any way of knowing what would come next. Fortunately that was the worst thing that happened to us and the eye never did pass us, we apparently were just outside the edge of the "eye" so we never did experience the calm that we looked for, just a continued blowing. Finally we were so exhausted that we just stretched out on the bed, I guess around 2 or 2:30 a. m., Martha says, and without any knowledge of it just dropped off to sleep.

I woke about daylight and not having any idea of what to expect, when I looked out in the backyard, I could not believe my eyes. Our yard has some 8 or 10 beautiful tall pine trees and all but 2 of them were broken and on the ground. I hurriedly ran out the door and it looked this way all down our street. Everywhere I could see it was trees that had been snapped off like they were match stems. There was almost a uniformity about it, they were broken up about 20 or 30 feet, just twisted off. In looking at things it looked like a tornado's effect and as I looked down our street it was just emotionally more than I could take, a tremendous sight, every house I could see had at least one tree on it. My neighbor's house just south of us had a tree that did not just send a branch through it as ours, but just sliced right through it just like it was cardboard all the way down to the ceiling level.

As I looked and walked on down the street some, I talked to some neighbors and found out that the first 18 or 18 houses on the street had just been obliterated. They just were not there. The force of the water apparently came in and just wiped them out completely, just the foundations were left standing. So, one brief look around was enough to make me realize what little we had experienced was so little that we had very much to be thankful for.

Later in the day Mr. Blackwell and Mrs. Kaletsch and two of the staffers came by and I joined them and we went down to look at Kittiwake and

Gulfshore. This was just unbelievable.

At Kittiwake there was one building left standing and all the ironic thing, this was the only shack that we had. It was a building that had been used for some of the years as our craft shop. It was partly open all the way around and this may have been the reason that it stood but it was pretty far back but every cabin, every house, the lodge, all the brick, the motel buildings just completely leveled. Not one thing left standing. To look at this was more than man could comprehend. All those beautiful pine trees in the back part of Kittiwake were just snapped off just as if some giant had walked through and broken as you have often broken a weed when you walked through a field. Some of them were not snapped completely off but just at the breaking point and splintered. But most of them just snapped completely.

Of course, in losing all of this the Clements family lost not only the house in which they were living which belonged to us but all their personal belongings except what they had with them as they came to spend the night. This too, seemed unbelievable since during the last hurricane had suffered practically no damage but as we walked up the beach to be able to look around we looked next door where Gulf Palms Motel had been and no Gulf Palms. Beyond that was where this beautiful two story brick structure Pent House Apartments had stood and now Pent House Apartments just blank space. Two service stations beyond that were gone, beyond that we could see as far as the shopping center and only a wall or two remains. All of this just vanished as if it had never been there. We were not able to drive all the way down to Gulfshore, we drove within about 3 miles and then got on the railroad track, having to wade water to do so, and walked 3 miles down to Gulfshore.

My first glimpse of it was good but because some distance away, I could see the Surf building and it was standing and this was most encouraging because what we had seen had really made me fear that we would not see anything at Gulfshore. The thing I want to impress upon you is the difference between what we saw this time and what we saw before.

The emotional shock from the previous hurricane "Betsy" was so much different from this because in "Betsy" I drove down from Jackson as I had been out of town and when I got down to Gulfport I saw a lot of de-

struction and water but nothing of major consequence. There were broken limbs and broken signs, antennas down, some windows broken in but no just utter destruction at Gulfport and as I drove on down to Gulfshore it was the same way. At Kittiwake all was standing, nothing of any major consequence but then when I got to Henderson Point and drove on to the grounds at Gulfshore, suddenly from partial devastation there was just utter devastation and the contrast between the two was just more than I could bear. This time I had seen so much devastation that I was prepared for what I would see and I think I was able to bear it a little better than I could have if it had not been for the great contrast. But anyway, I got my hopes up a little as I saw the Surf building, gleaming in the distance, as we walked. However, as we got closer Mr. Blackwell says, "no shop" and I looked and sure enough there where his new shop building had been standing just hours before and now just empty space. Then we could look on down beyond the Surf where there should have been the children's Building and a classroom building and High Tide, Infirmary and the Bay dormitory, there was nothing. We looked and it was just emptiness and so then we were ready somewhat for what we saw as we got closer. We could see the fence down, everything, we stepped over and walked on into Gulfshore property and began looking around. The first building that we saw was Surf and while it was standing for sure, nevertheless, it was ruined — The Auditorium and gymnasium stood — but just shells. I could not believe my eyes when I saw piles of rubble where White Cap, Driftwood and the classroom building, and the Dining Hall, had stood — nor could I believe the damage I've found in the main building, Gulf.

Gulfshore was gone! since that time I have realized how worry I was. While we may never rebuild on that site, Gulfshore is not gone — I had tried to say again and again "Gulfshore, more than a place." That's what Gulfshore is and as long as there are those of us who found God more real there — Gulfshore still lives!

Keep quiet; keep sweet; keep going; keep your head.

Things turn up for the man who digs.

If you itch for success, keep on scratching.



BEACH SCENE at Pass Christian.



ONE MAN in Pass Christian drapes a U.S. flag in front of his damaged home.



New Prospect Church Burns Note

New Prospect Church, Tishomingo County, held a noteburning on August 3. The \$1702 note for central air-conditioning was paid in less than one year. Left to right: Cecil Monroe, deacon (holding his grandson, Brian Richardson); G. E. Wynn, chairman of deacons; Rev. Stanley Magill, pastor; Wallace Anglin, Noel Bingham, and D. F. Fredrick, deacons. John Moore, holding the note, and Mrs. Pearl Bonds, holding the lighter, are the two oldest living members of New Prospect Church.